

New Boston Recreation

Subject: Commissioners' Meeting

Date: March 13, 2007

Location: White Buildings

Attendees:

Commissioners: Lee Brown, Ken Hamel, David Hulick

Staff: Mike Sindoni, Mary Barone

Guests: Don Chambers, Tony Eberhardt, Laurie Daley

* = *absent*

Discussion, **Motions** & **Action Items:**

- Bike Event (Tony Eberhardt): Bike race proposal update. Tony has worked out a course that runs in a clockwise flow around the 4H grounds. 2.5 to 3.5km length. Tony has talked with the Fire and Police Departments. We need to talk about concessions and merchandising. The Library wants to be involved in the bike safety program in May. 400 to 600 racers are possible. Attendance is expected to exceed 1,000 over the course of the day. All day event with possible final race under the lights. Advertising will be used to help defray expenses. Proforma expenses? Purse \$3,000 to \$5,000. There will be expense for a band. Making a pitch to TD Banknorth. Will approach other retailers in the area like Hannafords and Shaws. Tony will provide a proforma before the next meeting. Recreation will support local publicity. Rec could visit the race in Milford at Keys Field on the 15th of September. Tony will meet with 4H tomorrow. The race is on the New England USA Cycling events calendar. Tony takes care of insurance for the race itself. Vendors provide certificates of insurance. Who provides general liability? Tony will discuss this with 4H.
- Baseball / Softball: Introduce Don Chambers as new director. Don and his wife, Wendy have agreed to take on this responsibility. Don would like to launch a project to improve the infields of the ball fields. The quality of the infield deteriorates over the summer to the point where it is bad to play on. Can we remove the grass in the infield, and convert it to clay? Tom Dutton has looked at it, and he provided an estimate of \$6,200 for each of the two fields. \$1,500 labor and the balance is material. He would use a mixture of clay, sand and loam. He would have to take about 6 inches off, and would put in 3" of sand and clay on top of that. There are drains that would have to be avoided. Don has a scratch card fund raising idea. Could we use some of the baseball funds in the Friends accounts? Make it a 50:50 proposition where the baseball program and recreation both contribute funds? What have other towns done? Getting the right material is critical. Do one field at a time? The idea is to spread out the expense, and try one mix before committing to the second field.
- Planning Board (impact fees & land acquisition): Rec has been invited to meet with the planning board to discuss impact fees for new developments. Would rec be interested in land? Cash would be better. The Southern NH Regional Planning Commission is working with the planning board.
- 2007 Department Objectives: Hoping for favorable votes on the credit card and van articles. The school will take at least 1 ½ years to get a clear direction on the K-8 concept. This makes it difficult for Rec to make any commitments. In other areas: What are Rec programming goals? Summer camp? After school? Review at the next meeting. Space is a constraint, especially when it comes to using the school gym. Can we add trail riding? Mike is looking into it. Need to look at insurance. After school attendance is down. Mike and Mary are looking at some promotion activities.
- White Building (bathrooms, locks, door): Overflow in one of the buildings. What should we invest if we are going to use these buildings for 3-5 years. Cover the floor tiles, add ventilation. New door lock added. Bathroom upgrade: No more than \$5,000. Flooring, fixtures, some plumbing. Doors and partitions. Improve handicap accessibility. What about the land behind the post office? Elsewhere, we need to consider land purchase in most locations (\$200,000). The consensus is that we will be in the White Buildings long enough to justify fixing a bathroom.

- Band Concerts: Mike and Mary are scheduling the events. Make a trifold schedule this year instead. Six concerts scheduled.
- New Grill: Buy one with 4 wheels.
- Updates:
 - Trust Funds: There is around \$50,000 in various bank accounts. David called A.G. Edwards for direction about investing for a Friends organization, but does not yet have a response. We will need to call a Friends of Recreation meeting to vote on transferring the funds once we have a plan. Memo to Friends asking for their consent. Could we add balance of the revolving account at the end of the year?
 - Programming Updates: Cabin fever dance is scheduled for March 31. Advance ticket sales are slow. 25 confirmed ticket sales so far. Investment is \$1,500. We need 110 people to break even. Mike will see where we are on Friday, and he can cancel it if he wants to. Ballroom dancing is doing well. Golf lessons are being set up. Yoga and gymnastics are doing well. Baseball is up to last year's numbers already. Basketball had a good season. Summer camp registration has started on-line. On-line registration is a popular feature. Credit cards will also be well-received.
 - Dugouts: Tom Miller took the logs for dugouts and grandstand. They will be milled within the coming weeks, depending on the weather. The goal is to complete them by May 1.
 - Grandstand: Could we add a bathroom as part of the grandstand plan?

David Hulick, Secretary